

**MINUTES OF THE
Thirty-Eighth Session
OF THE
Tombigbee Baptist
Association**

(Now Itawamba County Association)

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**HELD WITH
The Fulton Baptist Church
Itawamba County, Mississippi
October 15, 16, 17, 1921**

Next Session meets with Fairview Baptist Church on Saturday before the Third Sunday in October, 1922.

Introductory preacher, J. A. Conwill. G. A. Senter, alternate.

Missionary preacher, J. F. Benson. J. T. Robinson, alternate.

Member State Mission Board—J. A. Conwill.

Officers—A. T. Cleveland, moderator, Fulton, Miss.
S. T. Graham, clerk, Fulton, Miss.

Educative Board—W. M. Chaffin, chairman; D. W. Graham, J. W. Powell, L. A. Bookout, J. A. Conwill.

PROCEEDINGS.

The first annual session of the Itawamba County Association (see proceedings elsewhere) convened with Fulton Baptist Church October 15, 16 and 17, 1921.

Those appointed to preach the introductory sermon being unable to preach, Rev. R. A. Kimbrough was selected to deliver the sermon. He responded with a very able sermon based on the Great Commission, which was greatly appreciated by his hearers.

After refreshments the Association reassembled and after a song service the body proceeded to work.

The moderator and clerk being absent, Bro. A. T. Cleveland was called to the chair, and S. T. Graham was called to the desk as clerk in the organization.

On motion the former order of business was adopted.

W. M. Chaffin and D. W. Graham were appointed reading clerks.

The moderator appointed W. T. Lessenberry, A. D. Graham and W. P. Farrar to serve as Finance Committee.

The moderator called for the letters from the churches and the following letters were presented, read and the messengers' names enrolled:

Providence—J. M. Parker, E. N. Davis, J. S. Jones.

Mount Pisgah—L. A. Bookout, J. L. Bookout, J. Y.

Bowen

Mount Pleasant—A. Jackson, J. T. Robinson, G. W. Wilemon, T. J. Wilemon.

Fairview—D. W. Graham, J. G. Wood, Lee Graham, B. F. Graham.

Fulton—J. W. Davis, G. L. Dulaney, Mrs. Effie Cleveland.

Union Grove—W. P. Farrar, J. A. Thomas.

Red Bud—Eld. A. L. Anderson, Willie Gentry.

Salem—Thomas Moses, Floyd Cleveland, Arthur Waddle.

New Home—R. V. Wheeler, T. Burch, W. P. Wallace.

Bethaney—Eld. J. F. Benson, W. T. Lassenberry, W. M. Chaffin.

Pleasant Grove—Lee Stegall, J. M. Kennedy, John Harmon.

Mount Moriah—By letter only.

Mount Zion—Rev. D. D. Dulaney, Rev. G. A. Senter, J. W. Powell.

Shiloh—J. T. Page, T. D. Cleveland

On motion the moderator pro tem. and clerk pro tem. be retained as officers for the ensuing year

No messengers being present from Liberty Grove, and there being visiting brethren present, a motion was sustained seating Eld E M Young, U G. Summerford and Calvin Robinson as messengers.

Called for correspondence. None.

A letter of correspondence from Dr J. G Chastain and former clerk were read and the clerk was instructed to answer each.

The deacons of Fulton Baptist church, W. M. Chaffin, U. G. Summerford and John Harmon, were appointed a devotional committee for this session.

Rev R. A. Kimbrough, Blue Mountain, Miss ; Miss Fannie Traylor, Jackson, Miss ; Rev A. M. Nix, Rev. J. W. Hudson, Bro A. G W Byram, Belmont, Miss., were invited to seats as visitors from their respective associations.

On motion Eld J. A. Conwill was seated as messenger from Hopewell church without a letter.

Devotional committee reported that Eld. J. W Hudson preach Saturday night at 7 o'clock.

On motion and sustained that the moderator and clerk appoint the various committees and hand a list to the chairman of each as early as possible.

Homes were assigned messengers and visitors, and the association adjourned until 8:30 a m. Monday.

SATURDAY NIGHT.

Rev. J W. Hudson read 8th chapter of Romans for a lesson. Prayer was offered by Rev A. M Nix. Theme: Assurance of Salvation. Sermon excellent. Closing prayer by Eld. Kimbrough.

SUNDAY MORNING.

After an interesting Sunday School service, and by agreement of appointee, Rev R A Kimbrough preached the sermon. Lesson, 8th chapter of Corinthians. Prayer led by Rev. J W. Hudson. Theme, "Bible Doctrine of Giving." Discourse, plain and instructive.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON.

An instructive lecture on Womans Work by Miss Fannie Traylor was enjoyed by all.

The devotional committee reported that Rev. A. M. Nix preach Sunday night at 7 o'clock.

SUNDAY NIGHT

Elder Nix occupied the stand, and read Hebrews 7:14 to close of chapter as a lesson. Prayer led by Elder J. W. Hudson. Text, Hebrews 7:25. Theme, "The Great Savior, Jesus Christ"

MONDAY MORNING.

The Association met pursuant to adjournment. After a song service the moderator read a morning lesson. Prayer offered by Elder J. F Benson.

Called for detained letters. None.

On motion and sustained Bro. A. T. Cleveland was elected a messenger to the State Baptist Convention

The moderator called for committee reports, which were submitted as follows:

DESTITUTION.

After diligent inquiry we find our destitutions are as follows: All the Fourth District south and east of Bull

Mountain creek, except Mount Moriah, Liberty Grove and Pleasant Ridge Baptist churches, is destitute of Baptist preaching. Zion church is in bad condition for lack of gospel preaching.

We recommend if a missionary can be secured that an investigation be made of conditions at above named places.

Submitted,

W. T. Lessenberry, Chairman,

Report received and discussed by Elder J F Benson, Elder J. A. Conwill, Elder A M Nix, A. G. W Byram, Elder A. L. Anderson, Rev R A Kimbrough, Elder R B. Gunter and adopted

MINISTERIAL SUPPORT

Your committee begs to report as follows: The Lord has plainly taught in His Word that they that preach the gospel should live of the gospel.

We therefore recommend that the churches and Missien Board should have a plain understanding with pastors at the beginning of each year regarding the salary they are to receive for their work

Respectfully submitted,

J F. Benson, Chairman.

Received and discussed by J F Benson, J W. Hudson, R. A Kimbrough, Dr R B. Gunter, A T. Cleveland, A. L. Anderson, S. T. Graham, D. D. Dulaney and adopted.

On motion and carried that we adjourn for preaching services conducted by Dr. R. B. Gunter, and refreshments. After singing Dr. Gunter read the 1st chapter of Romans for a lesson. Prayer lead by Bro. J. H Powell. Theme, "The Lord's Work in General," based on the Commission.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Came together by singing, and proceeded to dispense with the business as follows:

On motion and carried the name of the Association be

changed from Tombigbee to Itawamba County Association.

On motion and carried that the moderator and clerk are empowered to appoint the chairman of each committee previous to the next session of the association.

Committee reports continued as follows:

MISSIONS.

We believe nothing is more important than preaching the gospel to lost men and women. Nothing could be more urgent than preaching the gospel to those who never heard it. Nothing is closer to the instructions and examples of the New Testament than the holy work of preaching the gospel among the nations that never heard it, and where open doors of opportunity indicate plainly our duty to enter. We heartily endorse the work of our Mission Boards; as our statistics abundantly show the success of the plan under which we are working.

Respectfully submitted,

J. A. Conwill, Chairman.

Received and spoken to by R. A. Kimbrough, R. B. Gunter, J. F. Benson, J. A. Conwill, J. W. Hudson and adopted.

The following resolution was adopted: Realizing the great need of a missionary in our county, and the secretary of the State Board being present, we hereby ask that the Board put a good man in this county at its earliest opportunity.

TEMPERANCE.

Christian statesmen and legislators, by the aid of the prayers and ballots of a christian citizenship, have written in the laws of our state and nation bone-dry prohibition, but owing to lack of moral and physical courage and proper training, prohibition has failed to prohibit. Illicit stills flourish as never before. The bootlegger can ply his trade with an affrontery that casts a reflection on the pulpit, on

the press, on the teachers in our schools, on our officials, and on the citizenship of our land that is notoriously unpleasant.

We believe that one of the great hindering causes of the progress of christianity is professed christians who habitually indulge in intoxicating drink; who fail to uphold the law and take a firm stand against the accursed traffic. Therefore be it resolved, that this Association withdraw from any church who retains in its membership those who indulge in intoxicating drink.

Respectfully submitted,

D W. Graham, Chairman.

Received and spoken to by D. W. Graham, J. W. Hudson, J. W. Powell, J. T. Robinson and J S Raburn, and adopted.

ORPHANAGE.

Realizing the great opportunity to support an Orphans Home we feel was founded by God through the Baptists of the State We find that there are about 150 children in the home at Jackson. Can we feel and see why this home is necessary to those poor children? That home supplies a father's care and protection, a mother's soothing hand to fevered brows, her ever sympathizing ear to the little tots wants. It makes capable and useful men and women out of those who otherwise would be a burden on the county and state. It gives mental and physical and religious training, thereby giving to the state men and women fully equipped to do their part in the great work of elevating the standard of citizenship in society and church who, without this advantage, would fill our almshouses and jails Let us help them both with our means and our prayers.

Submitted,

E. M Young, Chairman.

Report received and adopted.

SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

On motion and carried, that we adopt the report adopted last year written by Hon. M. C. Benson, done in memory of him, as a report on Sunday Schools. The report was recommended by the committee.

The supreme task of Sunday Schools is to teach the Word of God. When the Word is rightly taught the result will be two-fold: The lost will be brought to know the Savior, and the saved will be taught how to serve, which is the supreme task in christian life. Eph. 2:10.

As a means to this end several things need to be considered:

1. Organization. Organization is very vital. No school can do its best work until it is well organized, with wide-awake, aggressive officers. The church should see to it that the school is put on the road to success by electing officers who will give time and study to the school.

2. Trained Teachers. The task set for the school is to teach. We cannot teach what we do not know, therefore it is absolutely necessary to have teachers who are trained. Each church must face this question. The last command is to disciple, then teach. It is an obligation no church should treat lightly. Each church should arrange for annual training schools, and then send the officers and teachers to the County Normal held each year by our State Mission Board under the direction of the Sunday School secretary, and send workers to our Sunday School convention and summer assemblies.

3. Enlistment. We should feel our responsibility to always bring them into our school.

4. Reports. We should see to it that our schools are reported correctly in the letter to the Association, giving full enrollment, officers and statistics asked for in the letter form.

Respectfully submitted,

M. C. Benson.

Re-adopted out of respect to him by committee.

FINANCIAL REPORT.

Your Finance Committee reports that we have received \$37.08 for the minute fund from the churches represented.

W T. Lessenberry, Chairman.

Adopted.

OBITUARIES.

We find our dead as follows: New Home, A. J. Ford and Minerva Chamblee; Fulton, M. C. Benson; Pleasant Grove, J. K. P. Scott and Mittie Wood; Mt Pisgah, Albert G. Moore; Liberty Grove, J. W Prestige. By referring to the various letters we find that death has claimed several of our members during the past year.

We cannot restore them to their former state in life, nor question by word or thought the wisdom of God in calling them away. If their laudable work was unfinished, we should finish it, as Solomon completed the work his father David had started.

May we ever be prayerful and attentive to duty, so that when we are called we may be ready and waiting.

May God bless, guard and guide those who are left and bereaved, and which we are persuaded He will do if they will always stand on His promises.

A. D Graham Chairman.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Receipts.

Received from Finance Committee.....	\$138 73
Balance carried over from last year.....	20 25
Received after distribution of minutes.....	9 48
Total.....	\$168 46

Expenditures:

Seventy-five Million Fund.....	\$ 51 00
Home Missions.....	18 50
State Missions.....	2 75
Orphanage.....	16 58
Printing minutes.....	75 00
Expense on same.....	1 24
Postage on same.....	1 56
General postage.....	1 50
Clerk's allowance.....	16 30

\$184 43

Receipts.....	168 46
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Balance due clerk.....	\$ 15 97
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Respectfully submitted,

William M. Pugh.

Received and treasurer discharged.

On motion the \$15.97 due former clerk be paid.

On motion the clerk ascertain the cost of minutes and notify each church of its pro-rata.

DISCIPLINE.

We believe that lack of church discipline is doing more to retard the growth of christianity, dwarfing the stature of God's children and rendering non-effective the preaching of God's word than all other causes combined. Therefore we recommend that all churches in our Association be earnestly requested to establish a more rigid discipline than has been practiced heretofore.

Submitted,

D. W. Graham, Chairman.

Received and spoken to by A. L. Anderson, S T. Graham, W. M. Chaffin, J A. Conwill, A J. Darling, and adopted.

MUSIC.

We believe that sacred music is a divine art given to us from God, and is the only one of God's praises we carry back to heaven. God's book teaches us to sing praises to Him. David sang praises to God. We believe all Baptist churches should use Baptist song books that contain the old hymns that our fathers sang, as most of the late books contain songs that are unfit to use in a Baptist church.

The preacher who gets sore because the congregation prefers singing to his preaching is not worth while and should be paid no mind. The singing is eternal, while preaching belongs to time. Singing will go on in heaven, but preaching will end with the world. Then, too, preaching would be a weak and empty thing here if it did not have the support of gospel singing.

To be a good singer is not enough. One must be a good man or woman, in order to succeed as a gospel singer. Just a plain, soulful singer whose voice is borne on the spirit of love carries a message to the hearts of the people, is what counts. Therefore, we see the need of good gospel singing from good Baptist books, and recommend for adoption "Kingdom Songs," published by the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn., and edited by I. E. Reynolds and Robt. H. Coleman, Dallas, Texas.

Respectfully submitted,

G. L. Dulaney, Chairman,

Received and adopted.

LITERATURE.

We recommend the state organ, The Baptist Record, and the publications of the Baptist Sunday School Board, published at Nashville, Tenn., as sound Baptist literature.

Respectfully,

Wm. M. Chaffin, Chairman

EDUCATION.

Education is the bulwork of civilization, the founda-

tion of good citizenship. The education of the whole man, the body, mind and spirit; anything else is narrow. There is no better type of citizen than an intelligent Baptist trained in body, mind and spirit, whose life and principles are in accord with the teachings of the Man of Galilee. We recommend the support of our denominational schools; it is not best to leave the whole educational forces to be controlled by the state. We recommend, also, that we take hold of God's called men, who have little of this world's goods, and who have no means to equip themselves and prepare for the life to which they are called.

Submitted,

D. W. Graham, Chairman.

Received and adopted.

NOMINATIONS.

We find Fairview to be the only church asking for the next Association, and recommend meeting with them.

Elder J. A. Conwill, introductory preacher; Eld. G. A. Senter, alternate.

Elder J. F. Benson, missionary preacher; Elder J. T. Robinson, alternate.

On motion Fairview was selected as the place of next meeting.

The following were selected as the Executive Committee for the coming year: Wm. M. Chaffin, chairman; L. A. Bookout, J. W. Powell, J. A. Conwill, D. W. Graham.

On motion that the bounds of the Itawamba County Association be the same as that of Itawamba county.

RESOLUTIONS OF THANKS.

Since God in His wisdom has allowed His people to assemble in another Association to discuss and plan for a greater work in His kingdom, we feel that we have been made stronger and that we shall be able to do bigger things for our Lord.

We have had a spiritual and temporal feast. Be it

resolved, That we extend to Fulton church and people our gratitude for their splendid hospitality and courtesy while with them. Thoughts of the people will linger long with us and be a green spot in the garden of our memories, kept watered with memory's golden dew. May they meet with like treatment wherever they may go, and when the last Association is held may we all meet around the Great White Throne.

Submitted,

D. W. Graham.

The devotional committee reported that Rev. A. J. Darling preach tonight at 7:30.

On motion the Association adjourned to meet with Fairview Baptist Church Saturday before the third Sunday in October, 1922.

A. T. Cleveland, Moderator.

S T. Graham, Clerk and Treasurer.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

Anderson, A. L., Dennis, Miss.
Benson, J. F., Route 1, Clay, Miss.
Conwill, J. A., Route 2, Red Bay, Ala.
Clark, C. C., Rara Avis, Miss.
Davis, J. W., Route 2, Red Bay, Ala.
Dulaney, D D , Route 2, Fulton, Miss.
Miller, W. T., Bexar, Ala.
Pruitt, S. M., Red Bay, Ala.
Robinson, J. T., Route 2, Fulton, Miss.
Senter G. A., Route 2, Fulton, Miss.
Young, E. M., Route 2, Fulton, Miss.

CHURCH DIRECTORY.

Antioch—Not represented.

Bethany—J. F. Benson, pastor. J. D. Underwood, clerk, Clay, Miss.

Hopewell—No letter.

Mt. Moriah—J. W. Killingsworth, pastor. E. L. Bennett, clerk, Smithville, Miss.

Union Grove—J. A. Rogers, pastor. C. C. Harrison, clerk, Smithville, Miss.

Providence—J. F. Benson, pastor. G. O. Parker, clerk, Rara Avis, Miss.

Fairview—J. T. Robinson, pastor. D. W. Graham, clerk, Eastman, Miss.

Pleasant Grove—Bob Birmingham, pastor. R. S. Harrison, clerk, Smithville, Miss.

New Home—J. F. Benson, pastor. R. V. Wheeler, clerk, Clay, Miss.

Liberty Grove—U. G. Summerford, clerk, Bexar, Ala.

Salem—J. A. Conwill, pastor. H. S. Williams, clerk, Eastman, Miss.

Shiloh—B. N. Roberts, pastor. J. T. Page, clerk, Red Bay, Ala.

Red Bud—S. T. Shook, pastor. D. B. Montgomery, clerk, Den-
nis, Miss.

Mount Zion—G. A. Senter, pastor. J. W. Powell, clerk, Fulton, Miss.

Fulton—J. F. Benson, pastor. A. D. Graham, clerk, Fulton, Miss.

Mt. Pisgah—G. A. Senter, pastor. D. R. Bookout, clerk, Clay, Miss.

Mt. Pleasant—J. T. Robinson, pastor. C. W. Thorn, clerk, Ful-
ton, Miss.

Pleasant Ridge—Not represented.

Zion—Not represented.

Statistical Table

CHURCHES.

Church	Membership	Inc. by Baptism	Inc. By Letter	Restorations	Dec. by Letter	Dec. by Death	Excluded	Sunday Service	Minute Fund	75 Million Pledge	Paid Pastor	Visiting Minister	Sunday School	Paid 75 Million Fund
Bethany	88				2	1		1	\$2.70	\$243.75	\$20.25			\$
* Hopewell					8			3		222.50	150.00		yes	
Mt. Moriah					6			2	.75	175.00	37.30	42.08		
Union Grove	72	12	3	2	2		4	2	3.20	267.50	40.00	7.60		
Providence	104	6	1	1	5	1		1	1.05	55.00	21.70	22.30		5.00
Fairview	47	6						2	.75		50.00	21.40		
Pleasant Grove	126	3	2		4	2			2.00					
New Home						1		4	1.00	400.00	50.00	22.00	yes	
Liberty Grove	92	6			1	1		1	1.76	194.35			yes	
Salem	128	6							1.60	263.50				
Red Bud	72	2		1	1		1	4	2.50	275.00	46.00	18.00		84.00
Mt. Zion	71	28	5	8	5			4	2.00		28.25	8.40		
Fulton	80	8	5	5	1			4	2.50	75.00	75.00	66.50	yes	22.00
Mt. Pisgah	60	5	3		3	1	1	3	1.40	530.00	68.35	10.75		
Mt. Pleasant	44	1			1			2	1.10	56.50		4.50		
* Pleasant Ridge	135	2						3						
* Antioch														
* Zion														
Totals	1196	74	19	5	45	8		24	31	2758.10	586.85	223.53		111.00

* Not represented.

